

U.S. Serial No. 10/078,347

NIP-256

REMARKS

The Applicants request reconsideration of the rejection.

Claims 2, 5-6, and 8 are now pending.

Claims 2, 5-6, and 8 were noted as containing allowable subject matter on page 3 of the Office Action. Accordingly, these claims have been rewritten in independent form including all limitations of their respective base claims. Thus, claims 2, 5-6, and 8 are believed to be in allowable condition.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the Applicants request reconsideration of the rejection and allowance of the claims.

Respectfully submitted,



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